



**National
Foreign
Assessment
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Guatemala: Herrera Kidnaping Case Ends

1 Following a dramatic, month-long series of events
2 worthy of a Hollywood screenplay, former Guatemalan For-
3 eign Minister Roberto Herrera Ibarguen--a close friend
4 and adviser of President Laugerud who was kidnaped on
31 December--was released on 30 January by the Guerrilla
Army of the Poor (EGP). Although Herrera was not exe-
cuted, as Laugerud and many others had expected, the af-
fair will nevertheless generate demands from conserva-
tive business and political leaders for a crackdown on
terrorists.

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The Herrera kidnaping [redacted]
[redacted] again demonstrate the EGP's capability to
challenge private and government security efforts in most
parts of the country and to absorb with apparent ease any
losses inflicted by the government. The prospect of con-
tinuing violence during the election campaign will only
increase the alarm of many business and political leaders.

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